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Virginia Recreation and Park Society

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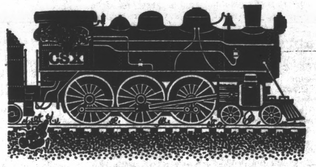

WHISTLE-STOP RELAY

Coordinator -- Julie Coffman

Asst. Coordinator -- Bill Britton

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PARTICIPANTS

Appomattox County Whistle Stop Relay Garet Bosinger, Robby Phillips, Lousie Martin, Jennifer Midgett, Bruce McClary, Robert Earl Pankey, Dickie Smith, Joe Terry, Scott Dawson, John Canada, Larry White, Gail Thompson, Robert Stubblefield, Rick Thompson, Rob Gray, Sam Kerr, Appomattox Celebrity RelayGina McCormick, Charlene Lawson, Ryan Coffman, Ashley Lawson, Kevin Holt, Ronnie Spiggle, Beth Ann Drinkard, Rachel Lawson, Betsy Wilbun, David Thompson, Vicki Canada, J. Franklin Vaughan, Bob Hudson, Sallye Inge, Amy Morris, Shirley Walton, Laurie Cowan, Mike Davis, Dervin Harvey, Susan Morris, Charles Walker, Laura Walton, Jeanette Drinkard, Stacy Myrick, Denise Drinkard, Jennifer Jamerson, Roxanne Williams, Thomas Jamerson, Jennifer Tweedy, Shannon Williams, Annette Williams, Samuel Williams; Pamplin Celebrity Relay Drew Elder, Russell Covington, Patrick Harrison, E.P. Horton, Margaret Payne, Shirley Seamster, Horace Coleman, Pat Holt, Bonnie Lambreth, Becky Webb, Lula Webber, Terry Brochard, Deborah Carwile, Deane Gilliam, Connie Sandman, Kerri Brochard, Jeanine Brochard, Tonya Brochard, Susan Carson, Elizabeth Carwile, Emily Covington, Tracy Gilliam, Tracy Price, Jenny Sandman, Matthew Sandman, David Sandman, Kenya Woolridge, Mary Wright, Allison Gilliam, Angie Robinson, David Carson, Elizabeth Wright, Johnny Wright, Jane Wright, Ginger Gilliam, Iris Gilliam, Sally Covington, Ryan Carson, Janet Robinson, Timmy Seamster, Shirley Richardson, Kellie Tolly, Natasha Woolridge, Frankie Webber; Very Helpful People David Coffman, Ute Riesenkonig, Westvaco Timberlands, Emilia Racer, Richard Phelps, Jose Medina, Bobbie Mullins, Judy Velturo, WTTX, Debbie Rush, Times-Virginian, Peggy Lawson, Sue Lawson, Gerald Wilbun, Gladys Harris, Jim Webb, Barbara Williams, Carroll Miller, Birdie Harvey, Janet Belter.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Glimpses of the Whistle Stop Relay, from Concord to Pamplin along U.S. 460 in Appomattox County: (A.) Garet Bosinger gets the countywide Whistle-Stop Relay started and passes the baton to Robby Phillips. (B.) Brownie Troop 724 of Pamplin lines up in anticipation of Thursday's Pamplin Celebrity Rely. (C.) The Pamplin Volunteer Fire Department is ably represented by Drew Elder. (D.) Appomattox Primary School representatives, Beth Ann Drinkard, Rachel Lawson, and Betsy Wilbun are ready to blow their whistles at Ashley Lawson representing Memorial United Methodist Church. (E.) Fearless Peggy Lawson covered the backdoor position in both the Appomattox and Pamplin City Celebrity Relays. (F.) Sam Kerr hands off baton to Hokie Club president Scott Dawson in Friday's relay. (G.) Russell Covington gives a helpful pull to Shirley Seamster in his little red wagon. (H.) Jim McClary makes final adjustment to son Bruce's bicycle just before his leg of the relay begins. (I.) Jennifer Midgett and Louise Martin psyching each other up to run with Robert Pankey. Both ran their best times ever! (J.) Larry White and Sam Kerr shared the Confederate Ave. leg of the relay. (K.) The Midgetts, Christopher and Kelley, congratulate Lousie on her run. (L.) Bob Stubblefield and pit crew ready for the last leg of the relay. (M.) Dickie Smith, Sam Kerr, Gail Thompson, Joe Terry, and Rick Thompson keep up fast pace toward Pamplin. (N.) Shirley Richardson and her trusty bike prepare for the Pamplin Celebrity Relay. (O.) Kellie Tolley, on roller skates, passes the baton to the Pamplin Town Council, Russell Covington, Shirley Seamster, Kellie, Patrick Harrison and Margaret Payne who are ready to charge down Main Street. (P.) With no train whistle to blow, all a boy can do is blow bubble gum! Bubble blower Ryan Coffman, David Thompson and Kevin Holt ready their Big Wheels for ACTION. (Q.) Brownie leader Dianne Gilliam receives baton from speedy rollerskater. (R.) Robert Earl Pankey (right) sets the pace for Louise Martin. Garet Bosinger and Joe Canada. (S.) Vickie Canada streaks with baton down Court Street during Appomattox Celebrity relay. (T.) Franklin Vaughan is chauffeured well within the speed limit by Bob Hudson in a wheelbarrow down Main Street.

Sponsored by **Westvāco** in the interest of promoting participation in outdoor recreation

Congratulations to all the participants

TIMES-VIRGINIA

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HO

Volume 93 - Number 25 | Deadline: 2 p.m. Tuesday | Appomattox, (Va.) - Times-Virginian - June 23, 1983

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Appomattox Chamber

Membership meets Tuesday

Plans have been finalized for the Appomattox Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting, to be held Tuesday (June 28) at the Appomattox County High School cafeteria, with social hour beginning at 6:30.

The meeting will feature recognition of three teachers from county schools who have been voted by their peers as "teachers of the year." The awards program was initiated this year to recognize excellence in the Appomattox County educational system.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Dr. Charles Ben Bissell, an entertaining and well known speaker from the Richmond area.

Speaker, writer, teacher, therapist, and businessman--these qualities have provided Dr. Bissell with a rich background of training and experience. His list of clients includes such quality companies as Philip Morris, Security Pacific Finance Corporation, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Virginia. He has also worked with the Medical College of Virginia, Commonwealth of Virginia, and Credit Women International.

Two recently published articles by Dr. Bissell are "Dealing with Loneliness" and "Making the Most of Your Time". His soon-to-be released new book "Letters I Never Wrote, Conversations I Never Had" deals with unresolved grief and anger. Dr. Bissell has made numerous appearances on "Good Morning, Virginia" television show produced by WXEX, an ABC affiliate, in Petersburg, Virginia, discussing mental health issues.

In addition to a B.A. degree in psychology from Carson-Newman College, he has an earned doctorate from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Other post-graduate work includes serving as a resident counselor at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Florida, and the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, where he taught courses on the emotional care of patients. In 1981 Dr. Bissell served as the director of the Louisa satellite counseling center for the Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care while doing research in the field of psychotherapy.

Dr. Bissell is a member of the American Society for Training and Development, Greater Richmond Chapter.

A popular speaker, Dr. Bissell has won people with his quick wit and warm sense of humor. Whether it is a supervisor, manager, doctor, or nurse, each has discovered the practical application of the presentations. Growing up in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky has given him the gift of story-telling, which makes his lectures easy to hear and understand.

Chamber members are reminded that reservations for the dinner meeting are due in by Friday (June 24). For additional information, contact chamber president Jim Nolen, program chairman Floyd Williams or Patsueen Bush, of the Times-Virginian newspaper.

SOARING TEMPERATURES and humidity drove many Appomattox Counties to their favorite water holes last week. This youth is enjoying a rope swing in a pool above a dam on a creek near Oakville. The trend of hot humid days and evening thundershowers continued early this week, but the temperature was due to let up by the end of the week. (Photo by Allen Austin)

In Appomattox, Pamplin

Canneries set to open in July

School Community Canneries located in Appomattox and Pamplin will begin operation during the week of July 5 for the 1983 canning season, according to Lloyd G. Walton, division superintendent of schools for Appomattox County.

The opening date for the Pamplin Cannery will be Wednesday, July 6.

Canning days for the Pamplin Cannery will be Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Opening day for the Appomattox Cannery will be Tuesday, July 15. Canning days for the Appomattox Cannery will be Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Both canneries will adjust the number of canning days as volume demands. "It is most important that we operate our canneries as efficiently as possible," states R. B. Carter, director of vocational education for Appomattox County. "Most counties are discontinuing such services and if we are to continue in Appomattox County the cost of operation must be held as low as possible. By staggering the canning days at both canneries we are attempting to have a cannery available to the county residents for four days of the week", added Carter.

Prices for cans and other services will remain the same as in 1982. These prices are as follows:

No. 2 (pint) - 20 cents each; No. 2½ (quart) - 30 cents each; Grinding - 5 cents per pound; Lard Rendering - 10 cents per pound; Catsup and other products placed in glass jars - $7.50 per kettle.

Families are requested to bring in food between the hours of 8:00 - 12:30 and have all foods ready for processing by 1:00 p.m. Patrons must bring necessary knives, pans, etc. for preparing foods as a very limited number of utensils are available at the cannery. Lay instructors and other supervisory personnel will be available to instruct patrons in the use of canning equipment as well as to demonstrate proper canning procedures. Detailed rules and procedures for using the canneries will be given each patron when they register to use the canning facilities.

A total of 30,446 cans were processed in the Appomattox Cannery while Pamplin had a total volume of 13,860 cans during the 1982 canning season. These volume figures compare very favorably with the 1981 canning season and far exceed the volume of 1980, which was a very dry year. It is anticipated that if weather conditions prove favorable this season that the volume will increase.

Lay instructors who will help with the operation of the canneries this year include Bertha Dickerson at Pamplin Cannery, Grace Williams at Appomattox Cannery and Patrick Harrison assisting both canneries. Phyllis Richardson will help with the Pamplin Cannery after August 19. Mr. Jimmy Burcher, instructor of agricultural education at Appomattox County High School, will be in charge of the Pamplin Cannery and Mr. Barry Sauls, instructor of agricultural education at the Appomattox Middle School, will supervise the Appomattox Cannery.

Persons desiring information about using the canneries are requested to telephone 248-6191 for Pamplin Cannery and 352-222 to obtain the Appomattox Cannery during normal canning hours. At other times information on the canneries may be obtained by calling Jimmy Burcher at 352-5602 and Mr. Barry Sauls at 352-5390. Information on either of the two canneries may be obtained by calling R. B. Carter, Director of Vocational Education at 352-8253.

School Board to meet

Recognition of teachers who are retiring, and reports on summer school, a computer class and school renovation projects lead the list of agenda items for the June 29 meeting of the Appomattox County School Board.

The board will meet at 8 a.m. in the school board office on Main Street. The meeting is open to the public.

Owl enhances local man's art

By BILL SHERROD

Depending on your school of thought, you might say that art imitates life, or life imitates art. And on rare occasions, art and life collide headlong like two locomotives.

Or, in the case of Bert Peters and "Screechy," like a Volvo and a screech owl.

Peters is an artist who lives near Pamplin. Screechy is a screech owl which flew into Peters' car one evening when he was driving to his store on Pamplin's Main Street.

This chance meeting would not be remarkable if not for the fact that owls are the primary subjects for Peters' artwork, his woodburnings.

"It's odd," Peters notes. "I'm so into owls, and an owl flies into me."

Peters recalls the circumstances of his meeting with the diminutive member of Otus sale. "I was heading into town on old 460, when I heard a 'thump' outside the car. I figured it was an owl, since they fly at that time of night. I stopped and went back and picked it up. Sure enough. It was an owl, and it looked dead.

"I took him to the store and put him in a box," Peters continues. "About half hour later, he flew out of the box and landed on the sink in the back of the store."

Peters captured the bird, and the next day took it to a veterinarian in Lynchburg, who said the bird had a bruised eye and a concussion. The vet kept the bird about a week, feeding it antibiotics and nursing it back to health.

The bird was too weak to fly, so Peters constructed a small cage and began feeding him a diet of liver and chicken hearts. An ornithologist at Virginia Tech suggested that Peters add mice to the owl's diet, since the birds need the roughage provided by fur and bones to aid in their digestion.

Screechy, who normally waited until dark to consume the livers and hearts, devoured the first mouse with great relish, in broad daylight, as soon as it was placed in his cage.

The screech owl, which is small by owl standards (about seven inches high) is abundant in this area. They are nocturnal birds which hunt generally only at night, except when they have young in the nest, and are likely to be seen hunting at all hours of the day.

The bird's name comes from its eerie, high-pitched call, which sounds like a cross between a pony's whinney and human scream. The first night Screechy exercised his vocal chords in the Peters home, it startled Bert's family.

But in general, "the family's enjoyed him," Peters notes. "He's like a cat. He doesn't adapt to you, you adapt to him. Even though he's dependent on us for food, he acts independent. I'll stick my hand in the cage to give him food, and he'll attack my hand, literally biting the hand that feeds him."

Peters says the owl has helped his art a great deal. "Copying detail is a step in art," he notes. "But bringing that detail to life is what I consider the ultimate. You can get detail from a photograph or a dead bird, but you can only bring that detail to life by observing the living creature and its actions."

Although Peters enjoys observing the bird and its habits, he says that he will eventually return it to the wilds. "He's still too weak to fly," Peters says. "I'll probably take him to VPI, where they can rehabilitate him and set him free."

BERT PETERS observes the screech owl, "Screechy", which flew into his car and was knocked unconscious one night when Peters was on his way to Pamplin. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Lions Club meets tonight

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet tonight (Thursday) at 6:45 p.m. in the Country Fare Restaurant.

The evening's program will be installation of officers for the coming year. Guest will be Lyle N. Garrett, Jr., zone chairman from Amherst, who will install the incoming officers.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Longest days of the year about now, but there is something to do for every daylight moment. And "something to do" includes everything from hard work to just sitting on a porch and watching the world go by. My porch thermometer has already reached a mark of "ninety in the shade." And that, my friends, is summer. Suits me. Lots of people must be taking vacation time for I miss familiar faces at business places.

* * *

Thanks to Bob Taylor, 11th grader living near Hixburg, for an interesting phone call, re: this column. Such questions as: population of county, population of town and this one: Will the Growing Town of Appomattox ever be a City? How big do you have to be to be a small city? Etc. My hope is that many of our fine young people will choose to stay in our area and help us make the most of every opportunity. Job availability is so important.

* * *

I started to church Sunday morning and my car engine stopped, leaving me blocking traffic in the middle of a block. Was fortunate to find my friend, Jesse Morris, an expert mechanic and he came to the rescue. Dead fuel pump. Mashall Goin had one, so although I missed church, waited until church services were over and they brought the part, installed it and all was well. A salute to doctors, pharmacists, police, firemen, Rescue Squad members, etc. and all those who are called upon for extra services.

* * *

Gnats are with us. Plus all manner of insects. It is that time of year. Best place to attack is where they breed.

* * *

It is the 43rd year for the outdoor drama, The Lost Colony, Manteo, N.C.

* * *

Question: What's the prettiest river in Virginia? So many answers. Appomattox River has its spots. I like the overall look of the area at the bridge near the Old Court House, just a mile below the river's source. The James River is our state pride, but where is it as its viewpoint best? Some favor the Maury River. Others prefer the Chickahominy, fish and all. And yes, there is a Robinson River. Up Culpeper and Madison way. The Mat, the Po, the Ni, forming Mattaponi. The York River, the Rappahannock, the Potomac. Oh yes, the Shenandoah, and out in the Southwestern portion of the Old Dominion, there is the New River. And the Jackson and Cowpasture Rivers. Nearer by, the Staunton River. And the Roanoke. The Elizabeth River separates Norfolk and Portsmouth. The Rapidan is a great name among rivers. Not so well known in this part of Virginia, is the Onancock River. Only a few miles long from the town of Onancock, Accomack County, down to the Chesapeake Bay. A lovely river, bordered by beautiful homes and harboring countless yachts. What is your favorite Virginia River? Tough question. How does one judge? By size, length, fishing, camp sites, history, pollution, bridges, resort area, what have you. Take your choice. My comment is that Virginia's rivers are a fabulous asset and should be treasured as such. Thanks for reading and seeya around.

Spencer convicted

Jerry Steven Spencer was found guilty of armed robbery in Judge J. R. Snoddy, Jr.'s circuit court here June 7, in the Nov. 5, 1982 robbery of the Appomattox Revco Drug Store.

Spencer was sentenced to serve 30 years in the state penetentiary, with 10 years suspended. He was also convicted of using a firearm in the commission of a felony during the Nov. 5 robbery. He received a two-year sentence for the firearm conviction.

Spencer, a 35-year-old Danville man, was apprehended in Danville following the Revco robbery and a similar drug store robbery in Rockbridge County, of which he was also accused.

The Triangle Plaza Revco robbery took place at approximately 8 p.m. Nov. 5, a Friday.

Witnesses said a man fitting Spencer's description entered the store, went to the back of the building and picked up a school supplies pencil bag, then returned to the front of the store to the check-out counter.

He then opened his jacket, exposing a handgun in his belt, and told the cashier to be quiet and put all the money in the pencil bag.

The cashier got a good look at the suspect, and this description, as well as other evidence gathered in an intensive investigation following the robbery were used in apprehending and convicting Spencer.

THEY'll BE PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS... at the Appomattox Young Farmers Truck and Tractor Pull to be held on Saturday, June 25 on Route 24, one mile east of Appomattox, beginning at 5 p.m. Rain date will be June 26. Admission will be $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for children. For more information call Appomattox County High School at 352-5602 or Bobby Waddell at 352-8639.

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